

REMARKS

Claim 57-65 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 66-71 have been added. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Examiner Interview

The Applicants' representative (John Gatz) would like to thank Examiner Tawfik for the interview conducted on February 15, 2006. We discussed the applied reference of U.S. Patent No. 4,335,843 to Kent ("Kent") and independent claim 57. No resolution of the pending claims was reached.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

To expedite prosecution, the Applicants will comment on the previously applied references of Kent and French Reference No. 2,728,867 to Maurice ("Maurice"), which were previously applied to now-cancelled claims 57 and 61-65.

Independent Claim 66

Claim 66 recites, *inter alia*, the acts of (1) "forming the side panels by folding the side panels at a 90° angle from the folded blank... and defining the two compartments in combination with the transverse rib, each of the opposing sides being formed by the combination of two side panels, each of the opposing sides having one of the side panels being longer than the other side panel, the length of the opposing sides being greater than each of the individual lengths of the two side panels"; (2) "securing the two longer side panels to their adjacent side panels"; and (3) "reinforcing the corners of the container where the end and side panels meet by folding at least once a tab at each corner of the blank to form a reinforcing panel and securing the reinforcing panel to an adjacent end wall."

The applied reference of Kent does not disclose, let alone teach or suggest, the above features in independent claim 66. Rather, Kent disclose a container 10 (see FIG. 2) that is formed by a blank 11 (see FIG. 1). The blank 11 includes a plurality of panels 19 that is shown as being identical in length that form the sides 19 (see FIG. 3). Additionally, Kent folds over an

additional panel 62 (see also FIGs. 2 and 3) that extends along the entire length of the side to form a double-sided wall. Thus, Kent does not disclose, teach or suggest “each of the opposing sides having one of the side panels being longer than the other side panel, the length of the opposing sides being greater than the individual lengths of the two side panels” and “securing the two longer side panels to their adjacent side panels.” Maurice does not address any of these deficiencies.

Additionally, Kent does not disclose, teach or suggest “reinforcing the corners of the container.” The other applied reference of Maurice does disclose reinforcing the corners of its container. There is, however, no teaching or suggestion on how the references of Maurice and Kent could be combined together such that the container disclosed in Kent would have reinforced corners.

Therefore, independent claim 66 is not obvious over Kent, Maurice or the combination thereof and is in a condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims

Claims 67-71, which depend directly on independent claim 66, should also not be rendered obvious over Kent, Maurice or the combination thereof for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with independent claim 66. Thus, claims 67-71 also should be in a condition for allowance.

Conclusion

The Applicants submit that the claims are in a condition for allowance and action toward that end is earnestly solicited. It is believed that no fees are due; however, should any additional fees be required (except for payment of the issue fee), the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C. Deposit Account No. 10-0447, Order No. 47088-00025USC1.

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Respectfully submitted,



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